

Bement; forty-one from Joseph Jeanes; fifteen from Wm. S. Vaux; three from Messrs. Vaux and Bement; twenty from Joseph Willcox; two by Homer Pennock; eight by Dr. H. C. Eckstein, U. S. N.; two by Dr. F. V. Hayden; two by Dr. J. Van A. Carter; six by John R. Harvey; one by Thomas Sinnickson; and one by Dr. Leidy.

A remarkably fine specimen of opalized wood, consisting of the segment of a tree, about one foot in length and eight inches in diameter, was presented by Mr. Michael Mohler, of Nevada City, California. A mass of galena, weighing upwards of 600 lbs., was presented by the Asbury M. E. Sunday School of Dubuque Co., Iowa.

Other minerals were presented by Messrs. P. P. Peck, P. F. Adams, G. C. Hewett, and Charles Weston.

Miscellaneous Specimens.—A curious stone relic, from Butler Co., Pa., was presented by Dr. J. C. McKee, U. S. A. A jar containing a collection of small vertebrates and some invertebrates, from the Isle Redowda, W. I., was presented by Dr. R. E. Van Riggersma. Several interesting objects were donated by Mr. T. G. Gentry; and a large Hornet nest, from New Jersey, was received from John Tatem.

Respectfully submitted by

JOSEPH LEIDY,
Chairman of Curators.

REPORT OF RECORDER OF BIOLOGICAL AND MICROSCOPICAL SECTION.

Adopted December 1st, 1873, and forwarded to the Academy of Natural Sciences as the Report of the Section for the current year.

In presenting our Annual Report for the year 1873, I think we have again great reason to congratulate ourselves upon the amount of original observation and experiments which has been brought forward by our members, placed on record in our proceedings, and given to the world, chiefly in the columns of the *Philadelphia Medical Times*. For whilst it is true that a smaller number of elaborately prepared essays have been laid before us the past twelve months than in former years, there has, undoubtedly, been elicited in our discussions a much larger amount and variety of that individual opinion and experience which form the essential

objects of any such society for the systematic observation of natural phenomena as ours, and the expression of which constitutes the true life of every similar association.

The interesting report of Dr. Albert Fricke upon the "Horse Epidemic of October and November, 1872," read before our December meeting of last year, and published in the *Medical Times*, was followed in January by the useful essay of Dr. J. Gibbons Hunt, "On the Preparation and Preservation of Vegetable Tissues," comprising a complete exposition of the method for mounting objects in Damar, which has of late proved so valuable to microscopists. In connection with this communication, Dr. Hunt showed specimens of the common Truffle, discovered growing wild near Philadelphia by himself, for the first time, as far as we are aware, in America.

The February meeting was occupied with the reading and discussion of Dr. James Tyson's able paper, "On the Microscopic Study of Blood and Epithelium," embodying some of the results of the author's observations in Europe, in the laboratories of Stricker and Klein, and since developed, in accordance with nature's great law of the survival of the fittest, into an excellent introduction to practical histology.

Mr. Danl. S. Holman submitted to us in March his ingenious moist slide for the examination of blood, pus, etc., whose practical application was admirably shown the following month, at the very satisfactory exhibition of microscopes, microscopical apparatus, and specimens, given by the Section in the Hall of the Academy, and attended by a large number of members and citizens, including many ladies, who appeared much interested in the wonders of the microscopic world.

In May, Dr. J. G. Hunt contributed a very practical communication, "On the Use of Hæmatoxylin in the Preparation of Stainings of both Vegetable and Animal Tissues," and in June exhibited a common Stellate Hair, sent to him as an extraordinary ingredient of vomited matter, which gave rise to an interesting and important debate upon Dr. Charlton Bastian's researches in regard to the Beginnings of Life.

The curious putridity of the water in the reservoir at the Camden Water Works, which presented an insoluble problem to various scientists, was demonstrated during the summer, by Dr. J. G. Hunt, to be due to the growth of a *Nostoc*, the *Trichormus*

Thompsoni, and at the October meeting he exhibited specimens of the plant, and suggested a method of preventing its development, which, if adopted, may economize expenditure to the amount of thousands of dollars, for our own and other municipal authorities.

Finally, at our last meeting, several short communications were brought forward, among the most important of which were Dr. Tyson's exhibition and account of Echinococci, and Dr. J. H. McQuillen's observations on a remarkable case of Dilaceration of the Crown of an Incisor Tooth.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

JOS. G. RICHARDSON, *Recorder.*

REPORT OF CONSERVATOR OF CONCHOLOGICAL SECTION.

The Conservator of the Conchological Section respectfully reports that the donations to the Cabinet, during the past year, have been as follows :—

- BEADLE, Rev. E. R. *Nannina rareguttata*, Mous., from Insula Adenon and *Ariopanta intumescens*, Blandf., from Mahlablishvar, India.
- BERENDT EXPEDITION, Subscribers to. Five species of land and fresh-water shells from Central America.
- ENNIS, J. *Pecten tenuicostata*, Migh., from Mt. Desert Island, Maine.
- LEA, I. Eight species of *Unio*, and two species from Georgia and S. Carolina.

In addition the following have been presented to the Academy :—

- DALL, W. H. Types of three new species of *Mollusca* from California.
- ECKSTEIN, Dr. H. C. One hundred and twenty-eight species of shells from the South Pacific Islands.
- GABB, W. M. Fifty-two species of land shells from San Domingo.
- GARRETT, AND. Twenty-six species of *Cypræa*, from the Viti Islands. Forty species of *Neritidæ* and *Neretinidæ*, from the Viti Islands. Seven hundred and twenty-five species of Marine and Terrestrial Mollusca principally from the Viti Islands,